

**MINUTES**  
**ILLINOIS HISTORIC PRESERVATION AGENCY**  
**BOARD OF TRUSTEES' MEETING**

James R. Thompson Center  
100 W. Randolph, Room 9-034  
Chicago, Illinois

February 6, 2012

**PRESENT**

Trustees

Sunny Fischer, Chair  
Julia Sniderman Bachrach  
Anthony Leone  
Shirley Portwood  
Dan Arnold\*

Staff

Catherine Shannon, Acting Director, IHPA  
Garth Madison, Chief Legal Counsel, IHPA  
Eileen Mackevich, Director ALPLM  
Chuck Giger, Administrative Services  
Trina Weinert, Recording Secretary  
Theresa Cherrier, Director of Finance\*

Guests

Carla Knorowski, Chief Executive Officer, Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library Foundation  
Frank Valadez, Executive Director, Chicago Metro History Education Center  
Justice Anne Burke, Illinois Supreme Court  
Karen Fredrickson, District Manager, Capital Development Board  
Leonard McGee, Chicago Liaison to IHPA, Capital Development Board  
Abdul-Gaffar Shedbalkar, Pullman Program Manager, Capital Development Board

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\* Via teleconference from 10 am – 10:30 am

Sunny Fischer called the meeting to order at 9:35 a.m.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

**(Items included minutes from November and December Board meetings.)**

***Approval of Consent Agenda***

Sunny Fischer stated that there were changes to the November meeting minutes.

Shirley Portwood made a motion to accept, as amended, the Consent Agenda. Julia Sniderman

Bachrach seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous voice vote.

### ***Guests***

Justice Ann Burke stated that on behalf of the Supreme Court Historic Preservation Commission, she would like to thank the Board for its support on the Mary Surratt and new Mary Lincoln trial. There will be four events and she would like to invite the Board members to attend.

Frank Valadez stated that the IHPA provides assistance to the Chicago History Education Center for the History Fair. History projects are submitted to the fair from Chicago and 17 suburban Chicago schools for grades 6-12. The Chicago history fair leads to the state fair in Springfield on May 6<sup>th</sup> this year. The funding provided by IHPA helps suburban schools participate, which helps students build skills while working on projects. The suburban event will be held on April 21<sup>st</sup>. There are four regional fairs held prior to the state finals.

### **ROUTINE BUSINESS**

#### ***IHPA Acting Director's Report – Catherine Shannon***

Acting Director Shannon stated that the FY 2013 budget was in the process of being prepared by the Governor's Office of Management and Budget (OMB) in preparation for the Governor's Budget Address on February 22<sup>nd</sup>. IHPA was notified by Scott Harper, from OMB, that all state agencies must take a GRF reduction of 9.4 percent from FY12 funding levels. If IHPA receives this cut, most of the existing 27 vacancies will not be refilled; up to three sites would have to close; and three sites that are fully or partially closed will remain closed. Additionally, management is looking at closing all sites two days a week year-round. Sites staff will need to look at what days of operation will work best at their individual sites. ALPLM may have up to

five layoffs, would not be able to fill key positions and may have to consider closing up to two days per week due to staff shortages. The central office would have to lay off one to two staff. In total, there could be up to 12 layoffs and 22 vacant positions would continue to go unfilled. The Governor's office is looking at ways to fill the gap with a tourism grant from DCEO, which would help keep more sites open. Catherine stated that she will be meeting individually with members of the House and Senate Appropriations Committees as well as their staff to discuss IHPA's budget concerns. Catherine reported that a meeting had taken place at the end of January with site managers, which included a presentation and discussion on the Jeffris Grant. At the end of the meeting, the site managers created several committees to do more advocacy, marketing and development for the sites.

Tony Leone made a motion to accept the Director's Report. Shirley Portwood seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous voice vote.

#### ***Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between IHPA and ALPLF***

Sunny Fischer stated that there have been great strides between the IHPA and ALPLF on working together. The MOU is important for this relationship. Garth Madison stated that the extended MOU with the Foundation expires at the end of February. The Board has a draft of the new MOU, which includes IHPA's proposed changes. There is a one year gap between the time the new MOU expires (2014) and the two subcontractors' contracts expire (2015). The proposed MOU: adds language clarifying that the subcontracts to operate the store and restaurant are subordinate to the terms and conditions of the MOU; authorizes the ALPLM to create or select

merchandise for sale in the bookstore, museum or elsewhere; and, provides that the MOU may be renewed every two years with mutual agreement by both parties.

Carla Knorowski stated that Garth Madison did a great job explaining both sides' positions on the proposed MOU. She said that the Foundation wants to work together and extend the MOU and get on with the work and the essence of what we should be doing. Garth Madison stated that the MOU does clean up a lot of language. Carla Knorowski stated that the contracts with Event Network and VCM (Subway/Secret Recipes) are doing well. VCM is bringing in much more money than the previous food/catering subcontract. Sunny Fischer stated that there was concern that if there is a change in the MOU as rewritten, it could affect the Foundation's contracts, over which IHPA has no control. Garth Madison stated that uncertainties regarding the state and IHPA's budget point to a shorter contract period.

Julia Sniderman Bachrach stated that little stands out in merchandising at the gift store. Carla Knorowski stated that the ALPLF and Event Network are open to ideas for merchandising. Director Mackevich stated that she and staff had spent time in the store and have ideas for use of the collections and she thinks we need to have a store that reflects the Museum. Carla Knorowski stated that the Foundation has the same goals as the Museum and she will go to the ALPLF Executive Committee if there are changes to the MOU and sign another extension if needed.

Tony Leone stated he had an amendment, adding a new Paragraph #21, regarding the Taper Loan Collection, to the MOU:

“The ALPLM and the Foundation are parties to a Loan Agreement, executed on June 27, 2007, and amended on June 16, 2009, relating to the loan by the Foundation to the ALPLM of certain objects, documents, manuscripts and other historical materials referred to in that Loan Agreement as the ‘Taper Collection.’ The Foundation and the ALPLM agree that the Loan Agreement is hereby amended so that it will remain in effect until the Foundation’s bond indebtedness has been fully paid off and title to every item in the Taper Collection has been transferred to the ALPLM.”

Carla Knorowski stated that the first agreement between the Foundation and the Museum stated that items would be turned over as paid down. The bond agreement, however, stated that nothing could be turned over until the entire debt was paid off. The Foundation is refinancing its loan, which would extend to 2017 or until paid off. Some of the loan documents had errors in them and they will provide new language to the lending institution. Garth Madison agreed that the loan agreement and financing documents were in conflict. Carla Knorowski stated the new loan agreement with the bank would be a traditional loan agreement and be a better deal for the ALPLF. She also stated that it is ALPLF’s intention that when the loan is paid off, the Taper Collection will be turned over to the ALPLM.

Sunny Fischer stated she was calling for a vote on the amendment adding Paragraph #21 – Extension of Taper Collection Loan Agreement. Tony Leone and Shirley Portwood voted yes; Julia Sniderman Bachrach and Sunny Fischer voted no. The Amendment failed.

Tony Leone moved to adopt IHPA's version of the MOU. Shirley Portwood seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous voice vote.

Carla Knorowski stated that if there isn't an agreement by the end of February, an extension may be needed. Tony Leone stated he would like the Auditor General to look at the relationship between the Foundation and IHPA. Sunny Fischer stated that if it was helpful she and/or Garth Madison would speak to the ALPLF Board. Carla Knorowski thanked the Board and Eileen Mackevich.

### ***State Historian Discussion***

Shirley Portwood submitted a resolution:

“Be it resolved that the Board of Trustees of the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency accepts and supports the report of the Research & Lincoln Collection Department Historians entitled “Responsibilities & Qualifications of the Illinois State Historian” and dated July 27, 2011, and the Board will submit said report to the Acting Director of the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency to determine the economic feasibility of funding said proposal.”

Shirley Portwood stated that there was a need for a state historian and IHPA may not be able to afford to hire one. Acting Director Shannon stated that the Governor's office prefers that the state historian be an honorary position. Shirley Portwood stated that the state historian should focus on the state's history and education and it must go beyond Lincoln history.

Shirley Portwood read the resolution. The resolution was approved unanimously.

## ***Staff Reports***

### **CDB Projects/Pullman - Chuck Giger**

Chuck Giger introduced the staff from the Capital Development Board who have been working on the Pullman project. Karen Fredrickson reported on repairs: roof, removing wall coverings, plaster fixed, installing steel beams in the basement, excavation of the basement for handicapped access and new HVAC. Leonard McGee stated that the funds originated as Build Illinois money in 2005; no new capital funds have been used. There is legislation pending in Congress for the site to become a National Park. Sunny Fischer stated there was an article in the Chicago Tribune on the site. Julia Sniderman Bachrach stated that the ULI recommendation stated the site needed strong partners and the National Park Service is a strong partner.

Chuck Giger stated that work on the Dana Thomas House wraps up this month and the Lincoln's Tomb water line project is complete. There is also work being done on the Crenshaw House water line, as well as work on the plaster at Lincoln's Tomb. Transporting the Pullman car is in the works. Mold assessment has been performed at the Old State Capitol on the second level. HVAC replacement is occurring at Black Hawk Historic Site. Chuck stated that he has been reaching out to labor unions for help on repairs at various sites.

### **ALPLM Issues/New Exhibits – Director Mackevich**

Eileen Mackevich stated that the ALPLM is working on more collaborations, especially with partners in the education field, and she is working with Gery Chico, Chairman of the Illinois State Board of Education. CMS did a great job on the Library website and it is almost ready to

go live. The Boys in Blue exhibit at the Library had nearly 40,000 visitors. The Mary Todd Lincoln retrial events are scheduled to begin as follows: March 27<sup>th</sup> is the press kickoff in Chicago; the Mental Health Roundtable will be held at the State Capitol on April 16<sup>th</sup>, and the Retrials will be held on September 24<sup>th</sup> in Chicago and October 1<sup>st</sup> in Springfield. The Culture of Fashion will be held on November 12<sup>th</sup> in Chicago and November 19<sup>th</sup> in Springfield. “Mary’s Extravagances” will be an exhibit of Mary’s personal items to be held in conjunction with these events. Daniel Stowell, Director of the Papers of Abraham Lincoln Project, has responded to create a center for digitization at the ALPLM and thinks he can raise the money for this project.

#### Legal Issues – Garth Madison

Garth Madison stated that if the Foundation does not sign the new MOU as approved by the IHPA Board, the Event Network contract will not be valid, but the contract with the caterer will remain in effect. Garth stated that he has been working on MOUs at the historic sites, outstanding agriculture and concession leases and various procurement issues. He stated that his main concern is getting current concession agreements at the sites.

Sunny Fischer stated the next Board meetings would be held on May 8<sup>th</sup> in Springfield at the ALPLM, followed by September 24<sup>th</sup> in Chicago.

There being no further business and no new business, Julia Sniderman Bachrach moved to adjourn the meeting. Shirley Portwood seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous voice vote.



The meeting adjourned at 1:35 p.m.

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Sunny Fischer, Chair